 LYMPSTONE LIVES

**BRIAN COTTON**

**Brian Cotton, who has lived in Lympstone since 1999 with his wife Jo, has taken on various roles in our local community to improve village life.**

**Origins**

Brian was born in Surrey in 1937. After suffering a heart attack and having a triple bypass operation, Brian moved via Bristol and Torquay to Lympstone in 1999.

**Family**

He is married to Jo and has two sons: one who now lives in Exmouth, the other with Brian and Jo’s two grandchildren in Torquay.

**Career**

Brian trained as an engineer and, after a period as deputy chief engineer at a large chemical works in Avonmouth, worked in the oil and gas pipeline industry. In 1987 Brian and Jo’s life together took a very different turn in terms of work when they bought a hotel in Torquay. They stayed in the hospitality industry until 1999, when they moved to Lympstone.

**Village Connections**

Living in Lympstone the pair soon became involved in village life. Brian became Chairman of the Twinning Association, on the Committee of History and Historic Houses Association. He soon became a trustee of the Village Hall and Vice Chair for the last few years. It was under his, expert guidance that the Village Hall was brought into the 21st century with a new bar, kitchen, toilets, stage and hall lighting. He also advocated the hall’s solar panels, heating & ventilation and fire alarm system, with thanks to Don Mildenhall’s leadership.

**At Present**

Brian is now eighty years old and feels it is time to take a back seat from village duties. His summative comment on life in Lympstone is this: “I have enjoyed every minute of our life in Lympstone.”